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PROMOTION AND PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF CHILDREN

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/49/L.23

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

A. Requests contained in the draft resolution

1. By operative paragraphs 13, 14 and 15 of draft resolution A/C.3/49/L.23, the General Assembly would:

> 13. Approve the recommendation contained in the resolution adopted by consensus by the meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 10 October 1994, in which the States parties reaffirmed the recommendation made by the Committee on the Rights of the Child regarding the increase to three of the number of annual sessions of the Committee as from 1995, as well as the number of the pre-sessional working group;
>
> 14. Authorize the Secretary-General to implement that recommendation;
>
> 15. Request the Secretary-General to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities, within the overall existing budget framework, for the effective and expeditious performance of the functions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child.

B. Relationship of the requests to the approved programme of work

2. The requests contained in the above operative paragraphs of the draft resolution relate to subprogramme 1, Implementation of international instruments and procedures, of programme 35, Promotion and protection of human rights, for

the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997 1/ and to activities included under subprogramme 1 of section 21, Human rights, of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. 2/

C. Activities by which the proposed requests would be implemented

3. Should the General Assembly adopt the draft resolution, the additional annual session of the Committee would be convened as from 1995 during the spring of each year for a duration of three weeks. The additional meeting of the pre-sessional working group would be held in January of each year immediately following the conclusion of the Committee's regular winter session, thus avoiding the need to provide for additional travel resources.

D. Additional requirements at full cost

4. With regard to operative paragraph 13 of the draft resolution, on the organization of the future work of the Committee, it should be recalled that, under the terms of the Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 44/25 of 20 November 1989, and as amended in its resolution 47/112 of 16 December 1992, the Committee on the Rights of the Child holds two three-week sessions a year at Geneva. A pre-sessional working group also meets at Geneva for one week approximately two to three months in advance of each session. The related resources have been provided in the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995. However, the additional annual session of the Committee and the pre-sessional working group have not been included in the 1994-1995 programme budget. They would, thus, entail additional requirements as summarized below:

I. SECTION 21

	1995 $
10 members attending the additional annual session of the Committee	87 500
10 members attending the additional meeting of the pre-sessional working group	12 400
Total I	99 900

II. SECTION 25E

	1995 $
Conference services costs	
(a) Pre-sessional working group	
Meeting services (10 meetings: E,F,S)	28 200
Pre-session documentation (200 pages: E,F,S)	105 000
In-session documentation (50 pages: E,F,S)	30 300
Post-session documentation (50 pages: E,F,S)	30 300
General Services requirements	3 400
Subtotal	197 200
(b) Session of the Committee	
Meeting services (30 meetings: E,F,S, A,C,R for 2 meetings only)	100 800
Pre-session documentation (50 pages: E,F,S)	29 500
In-session documentation (100 pages: E,F,S)	58 300
Post-session documentation (50 pages: E,F,S)	56 600
Summary records (30 meetings: E,F,S A,C,R for 2 meetings only)	297 600
General Services requirements	10 300
Subtotal	553 100
Total II	750 300
Grand total, I and II	850 200

E. Potential for absorption

5. It should be recalled that, in the expectation that the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families would enter into force in 1994-1995, the General Assembly approved, under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995, an amount of $236,100, including $148,100 for travel and $88,000 for honoraria for the 14 members of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. However, owing to the fact that the number of ratifications is lower than was anticipated, the Convention is not expected to enter into force in 1994-1995 and therefore the Committee will not be meeting in that period. It is therefore proposed to redeploy part of this amount in order to finance the proposed additional meetings of the pre-sessional working group and of the Committee on the Rights of the Child ($99,900).

6. In connection with operative paragraph 15 of the draft resolution, in which the Secretary-General would be requested to ensure the provision of appropriate staff and facilities, within the overall existing budget framework, for the effective performance of the functions of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, no additional staff resources are envisaged beyond those that were originally approved by the General Assembly, that is, one P-4, one P-2 and one General Service staff member, by its resolution 45/248 B, section VI, of 21 December 1990 and one P-4, one P-3 and two General Service staff members approved in connection with the implementation of the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families; these were redeployed for the additional work envisaged in respect of the rights of the child as indicated in the statement of programme budget implications (A/C.5/48/46) submitted in connection with General Assembly resolution 48/121 of 20 December 1993 on the World Conference on Human Rights.

7. The resources provided under section 25E (Conference services) of the programme budget for 1994-1995 include provision not only for meetings already in the calendar of conferences but also for those to be added later by decisions of the General Assembly, based on the pattern of such meetings in the past. Accordingly, it is anticipated that the provision of conference services for the additional session of the Committee and the pre-sessional working group meeting, totalling $750,300, would be made available from within the resources included under section 25E of the programme budget. Thus, no additional requirements for conference-servicing would arise.

F. Summary of additional requirements

8. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.3/49/L.23, it is estimated that no additional appropriation would be required under section 21 of the programme budget for the biennium 1994-1995.

Notes

1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/47/6/Rev.1), vol. II.

2/ Ibid., Forty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/48/6/Rev.1), vol. II.